

In the title:

--Laparoscopic Simulation Interface--

In the specification:

The following is a clean version of the paragraphs and/or sections of the specification amended by the present amendment.

Before the first line of the specification, insert:

--This application is a continuation of copending prior application Serial No. 08/870,956 filed on June 6, 1997, ^{now U.S. Pat. 6,246,290,} which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/374,288, filed on January 18, 1995, [^] now U.S. Patent No. 5,731,804, both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.--

On page 1, line 10, before "Background of the Invention", insert the paragraph:

--This invention was made with Government support under Contract Number III-9361801 awarded by the National Science Foundation, and Contract Number DE-FG03-94ER86008 awarded by the Department of Energy. The Government has certain rights in this invention.--

On page 16, replace the third paragraph with the following:

-- Optionally, additional transducers can be added to apparatus 25' to provide additional degrees of freedom for object 44. For example, a transducer can be added to grip 26 of laparoscopic tool 18 to sense when the user moves the two portions 26a and 26b relative to each other to simulate extending the cutting blade of the tool. Such a laparoscopic tool sensor is described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/275,120, now Patent No. 5,623,582, filed July 14, 1994 and entitled "Method and Apparatus for Providing Mechanical I/O for Computer Systems" assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.--